## GREAT DAY FOR GREAT FACTOR IN CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION

will be the proceedings scheduled for today at the corner of State and First South streets, when the corner-stone of the splendid new building of the Young Men's Christian asso-ciation of Sait Lake City will be laid with the pomp and ceremony befitting the eccasion. This building, to cost the eccasion. This building, to cost \$125,000 when completed, and considera-bly more then half of which amout has ing of the Young Men's Christian assothe eccasion. This building, to cost \$125,600 when completed, and considerably more than half of which amout has already been subscribed, may be said to be the result of indefatigable work on the part of a few men, bucked by the generous spirit of a number of others, chief among whom is George Foster Peabody of Brooklyn.

The Young Men's Christian association of this city has, since its organization, met storms of adversity. While



George Foster Peabody, Who Con-tributed \$25,000 to the Building

periods of its history are not devoid of the good results which have attended the efforts of this association in all parts of the world, yet the local organization has never yet had facilities for doing the real association work. But these will have been acquired with the completion of the new building, and it is not to be wondered that those who are best acquainted with the work possible to be accomplished by this great institution, is the way of making young men better citizens, are exceedingly jubiliant over the prospect. periods of its history are not devoid of bliant over the prospect.

## Work Done in the Past.

Work Done in the Past.

For several years following the organization of the association in this city it steadily ndvanced in membership and power for good, although always lacking the financial support required for the heat results. While quarters provided with reading-rooms, gymnastum and other adjuncts were maintained in rented quarters, the equipment became worn out more rapidly then it was replaced and interest diminished, until, in the fall of 1892, the question was seriously contemplated by question was seriously contemplated by the management of closing the rooms, with the understanding that they should hever be reopened until suitable quarters for doing the association's work were secured. General retary Osear L. Cox felt, however, that as he owas but newly on the sround, such a course might lead to loss of confidence by the public. Hence, \$300 was spent in making the rooms more cheery and somewhat improving the baths for the

Large Deficit to Meet.

The condition of the equipment was of the most serious of the association's ifficulties. Through its moves and difficulties. finances had run behind from year to year until as this time they presented a net deficit of 15530.35. A considerable part of this was in uncared-for bills outstanding among the business men of the city. These were funded and all month, when the last of it was wiped



Oscar L. Cox, General Secretary of Y. M. C. A.

out. The winter's work was as successsult in increasing the association's debt The directorate recognized that this was only a temporary effort and that in the spring heroic measures must be resorted to either to pay the debt and leave the association with a clean rec-ord or to do this and also secure funds

for the erection of a building A Strong Friend Appears.

It had been known for some time that George Foster Peabody of Brooklyn, N. Y., had been very largely interested in the work of the local association; in fact, he at one time offered to buy the city hall corner, but had felt that the price asked was excessive and with-drew the negotiations. A meeting was held early in November, 1902, at which were present Frank B. Stephens, Frank Pierce, William F. Coleton, C. K. Ober and Oscar L. Cox. It was decided that the city hall corner was by all odds the most desirable location for the associa tion, and a telegram was sent in the hope that Mr. Peabody might still beprevailed upon to open negatiations for the property. This resulted in Mr. Pea-body's subscribing \$25,000 upon the condition that \$50,000 additional was raised in Salt Lake City by May 1, 1903. That date was later extended to June 1st.

A Large Undertaking.

It was the well-nigh universal opin ion that the \$59,000 could never be raised in Salt Lake City. In fact, a resolu-tion was introduced in the meeting of

POCH-MAKING in their character | the board of directors in December of that year looking toward the abandon-ment of the project. In the January mosting, however, the feeling had grown that the matter, whether possi-ble or not, should at least be attempted, and on March 28th the formal resolution sociation's rooms were closed with the understanding that it would never re-open in rented quarters.

Securing a Site. It was felt that the site for the building must be secured, at least by option, in order to give some definiteness to the proposed convass. Many of the prominent business men of the city were asked to purchase the city hall corner and hold it subject to purchase by the association at the same price within a association at the same price within a given length of time. Two or three of them very kindly expressed themselves as entirely willing to accommodate the movement by advancing this money, but, as they expressed it, did not care to have the property left on their hands, as they were very sure that the fund would never be raised. However, just and these efforts seemed to be futile. as all these efforts seemed to be futtle, an agreement was reached with the Utah Independent Telephone company by which they should purchase the lot. giving the desired option on the north part of it, an option which was finally taken up on August 8th of the same year for \$32,592

Boy Gives First Dollar.

The first subscription came in voluntarily just after the first of April, when little Charles Lennon, 19 years old, brought to the general secretary a bright silver dollar to help put up the building, as he said. On the 2th of April, however, the canvasa was formally launched by subscriptions of \$1000 each from three of the directors and of lesser amounts by two others, and five days later M. H. Walker added \$25000 to the subscription list as it then and five days later M. H. Walker added \$5000 to the subscription list as it then stood. Two days later S. V. Shelp accepted the chairmanship of the finance committete, which he has since retained, having done a large amount of the actual work himself, and with untiring energy seeking to develop new triends and bring before the business men of the community the real value of the association's work. How well he has succeeded the results show for he has succeeded the results show for

Citizens Came to Rescue.

The canvass progressed to slowly owever, that on May 30th but \$27,000 f the \$50,000 needed was subscribed of the \$59,000 needed was subscribed June 1st was the day set by Mr. Pea body's offer for the completion of th enrivass, and things did not look very favorable for its success Prospects rose. however, on that evening. Mrs. Mary



Rev. Elmer I. Goshen, Speaker of the

Judge added to her already large list of Judge added to her already large list of philanthropies in Salt Lake City by making the handsome subscription of \$10,000. The canvass then went forward with vigor, Mr. Peabody having very generously extended his offer until June 15th. Many generous subscriptions were received in amounts of \$500 and \$1000. Two subscriptions were received from Col. E. A. Wall and Frank Knox, while Senator Kearns subscribed \$2000 and \$1000 and \$1000 from Col. E. A. Wall and Frank Knox, while Senator Kearns subscribed \$2000 and \$2000 and \$2000 lightly duplicated Mr. \$2000, and David Keith duplicated Mr. Walker's subscription with \$5000 more. Subscriptions of \$500 were received from half a dozen of the leading business houses and as many more prominent individuals, until, on June 15th, the chairman of the Finance committee was able to certify that the entire amount was subscribed, and the following telegrams were sent and received. ing telegrams were sent and received;

"George Foster Peabody, N. Y.— Have \$50,000 subscribed locally on Association building, OSCAR L. COX."
"Oscar L. Cox, Salt Lake City— Congratulations to you and to Salt Lake. You have done splendidly, Hope you will increase it to make building worthy of the metropolis which your

city is destined to become, "GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY." Since that time plans have been go-ng rapidly ahead for the building, and funds have been secured for paying off all the association's debts. The total cost of the building will be \$125,000. The canvass for the remainder of this fund is now under way, though in ac-cordance with the policy of the canvass no funds will be in any way solicited in

today's public meetings Some Early History.

The first steps toward the organiza-tion of the Y. M. C. A. in this city were taken in the early part of 1890, the first the issuing of the following call for a

the issuing of the following call for a meeting:

Salt Lake City, Feb. 24, 1890.

You are cordially invited to be present at a meeting to be held at the Federal courtroom Sunday afternoon at 4 p. m., March 2, 1890, for the purpose of conferring with all who are interested in Y. M. C. A. work for Salt Lake City. No city in the Union has greater need of such an association. Hundreds of young men are coming in and we must do something for them in this line.

C. H. PARSONS,

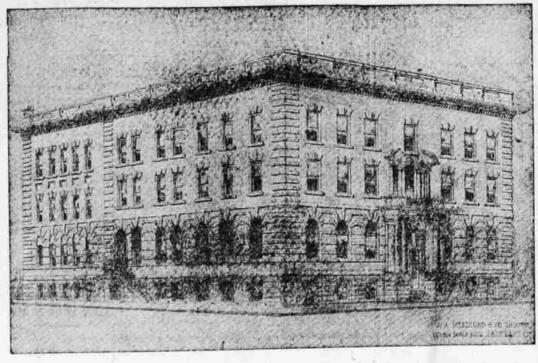
R. J. CASKEY,

FRANK PIERCE,

L. C. MILLER,

And Others.

In response to this appeal in behalf of the young men about 125 persons met at the appointed time and effected a temporary organization, with Dr. J. P. Millspaugh president and C. H. Parsons secretary. One hundred signers were secured to the roll of membership and committees were appointed on nominations and on constitution and by-laws. Another meeting was appointed for March 9th, when the age. by-laws. Another meeting was ap-



\$125,000 Y. M. C. A. Building Going Up on Corner of State and First South.



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ciation was permanently organized, with C. E. Allen, president.

The names of the several presidents of the association to the present time

and their terms of service, are as follows: C. E. Allen, from March 9, 1890, to January 1, 1971, Prank January, 1872, to senting, 1973, Prank Jenuary, 182, to sendary, 1825 Frank Grant, frem January, 1825, to January, 1896, Dr. E. V. Silver, from January, 1896, to January, 1829, E. P. Rognon, from January, 1829, to January, 1900; Dr. E. V. Silver, from January, 1900, to March 28, 1901; F. W. Hills and W. C. Lyne (vice-president), from March 3, 1901, to January 20, 1902; Frank B. Stephens, from January 20, 1903. Secretaries Employed—Wildman Mur-phy, from September 21, 1820, to January 1, 1853; C. H. Mooreman, from Jan-uary 1, 1802, to March 1, 1894; John T.

uary 1, 1893, to March 1, 1894; John T. Axton, from March 1, 1894, to August 19, 1902; Oscar L. Cox, from September 1,

For a time after the organization only gospel meetings were held on Sun-day afternoons, but the large number of young men pouring into the city made imperative the establishment of quarters. Rooms at 61 East Second South street were secured and soon the essociation was provided with reading-com, parier, gymnasium and bath-coms. Following this the association's quarters were maintained successively, with some improvements gained with each removal, in the following locations: in the Holmes building from August 1, 1892, to October 1, 1895; in the D. F. Walker building from October 1, 1895,

Furniture.

to July, 1898; in the Utsh National bank building from July, 1898, to May, 1988. An Era of Progress.

It was during the period of Dr. E. V.



Eliver's presidency of the association that a night rehool was established to give young men the opportunity to acquire an education after working hours. Dr. Eliver took especial interest in the night school department and in the religious work of the organization. ligious werk of the organization, at-though athletics and other temporal affairs were by no means neglected un-der his administration.

The report of Secretary Axion at the anniversary meeting in 1860 showed that the receipts for 1898 were \$604.47 in excess of those of 1897, the current ex-penses of the year were \$3281.15, and the cost of moving the headquarters of



Dr. Edward V. Silver.

the association from the D. F. Walker building on Second South street to the Utah National Bank building at the corner of Main and First South streets, and fitting up the new quarters, was \$542.50. There were at this time 306 members in good standing, of whom members in good standing, of whom forty-six were serving their country in the Philippines. The attendance during this year was 25 per cent in excess of that of any previous year, the average attendance having been 200, and there were 100 students in the night school.

The association gave an "at have" were 100 students in the night school.

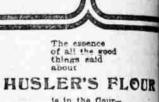
The aszociation gave an "at home" reception on January 2, 1899, in celebration of its seventh anniversary, which proved an event of considerable importance. An attractive programme was presented, which included an address by Prevident Silver, in which he spoke of the help of the night school to young men in making them competent to fill positions of trust and the service rendered business men in providing rendered business men in providing them with competent and faithful em

Effort Brings Success.



Hon. Clarence E. Allen.

task of inducing wealthy citizen provide the association with the important essential to succem-a that nothing but failure could at the effort. Undaunted, however, by seeming impossibility of the unter ing, the young man went about though he were sure of success 226 has found it—the building is well as way, a building that will be a creat the city, a monument to the progress Christian spirit of the age and at valuable agency for the unlitted valuable agency for the uplifulg many generations of young men. The exercises attending the laying The exercises attending the large of the corner stone will be held at in a today, and the features will be and dress by President Frank B. Steple and music by Held's band. Immelianly following the laying of the crestone the association's anniversary of bration will be held in the Their where the Rev. Elmer I. Goster vicilizer the principal address, and we among the musical numbers of the gramme rendered will be soles by in gramme rendered will be soles by M. Charles G. Plummer and Miss And

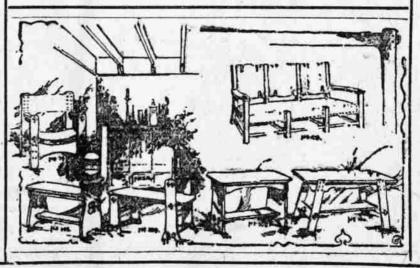


When Oscar L. Cox, in September, 1902, took charge of the affairs of the association as its general secretary, many of its best friends were discouraged, and when he undertook the

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